

**INTEGRATEABLE OPTICAL INTERLEAVER AND DE-INTERLEAVER****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A proposed integrateable optical interleaver includes an input Y-branch  
5 coupler and at least two multi-section optical couplers. The multi-section optical  
couplers of the interleaver include at least three substantially similar optical  
couplers, adjacent ones of the optical couplers interconnected via at least one  
set of waveguides. The interleaver of the present invention comprises a highly  
compact and fabrication-robust form that is capable of being integrated onto a  
10 single planar lightwave circuit.